

INFORMATION SHEET

ORDER NO.
SYAR INDUSTRIES, INC.
SYAR MADISON PLANT
YOLO COUNTY

Syar Industries, Inc. owns and operates an aggregate mine and processing facility near Madison in Yolo County. The facility includes former, current, and future gravel pits and extends along the southern bank of Cache Creek. The Discharger mines up to one million tons of sand and gravel from the historical channel of Cache Creek each year. The aggregate is transported from the mining areas to the processing plant where it is screened, washed, classified and sorted, and stockpiled according to product type. The stockpiled materials are subsequently used to produce concrete and asphaltic concrete aggregate, trench backfill and roadbase material.

Source water for the aggregate processing plant is obtained from an on-site well. Between 2,000 and 2,500 gallons per minute (gpm) of wash water is recirculated between the aggregate processing plant and three process wash water ponds (PWP-1, 2 and 3). This volume of water is necessary to process approximately 3,200 tons of aggregate per eight hour shift. During the months of May through October, the Discharger typically operates two eight hour shifts, and one shift per day during the remainder of the year.

Because these process wash water ponds are located within the 100-year flood plain, this Order requires the Discharger to provide a workplan describing measures that will be taken to protect the ponds from washout from floods within a 100-year frequency and a report documenting that flood protection measures have been completed according to the approved workplan.

The Discharger also operates an asphalt plant, which produces asphaltic concrete by combining proportions of aggregate mixture and imported hot oil in a high temperature process. Asphalt oil used in the manufacturing process is delivered onsite in tanker trucks and stored in heated storage tanks. The asphalt hot mix is then discharged into trucks or stored in heated tanks. No process water is generated from the plant; and the Order prohibits such a discharge.

Historical gold mining has not occurred in the area. However because naturally occurring mercury is known to the area, this Order requires the Discharger to monitor mercury concentrations in its discharge. If mercury is detected at concentrations equal to or greater than 50 nanograms per liter (ng/l) in any process wash water pond, then the Discharger shall submit a workplan to further characterize mercury in the water and sediment within the designated disposal areas.

This Order also requires the Discharger to submit a Groundwater Sampling and Analysis Plan, a Flow Measurement Verification Report, an Operations and Maintenance Plan, and a Background Groundwater Quality Study Report. In addition, the Order requires the Discharger to submit a Groundwater Monitoring Well Installation Workplan and Report if the existing wells do not adequately monitor the groundwater quality upgradient and downgradient of the process wash water ponds. Pond and effluent monitoring and reporting is required monthly, and groundwater monitoring and reporting is required on a quarterly basis.

Groundwater beneath the site has been monitored from onsite wells with water levels during the summer months ranging from approximately 30 to 40 feet below ground surface (bgs) and from approximately

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23 to 25 feet bgs during the winter months. Groundwater gradient is generally to the east-southeast of Cache Creek. Surface water drainage is to Cache Creek.

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